

# Moonbeams

BY COLONEL LITTLE

The Smallest Newspaper in the West

VOL. I, NO. 9

Boyce Hot Springs, Calif.

Friday, Aug. 26, 1955

By mail: \$1 per year. Pickup, free.

## Last Roses of Summer are ripe in the Valley of the Moon

The walking public is slowly getting a bit peeved at traffic conditions at the main corner of Boyce Hot Springs. There are white lines for crossings at the Woodleaf and the Boyce Drug store, but they seem not to slow down the oncoming traffic. Somebody'll get killed one of these days—and then likely the authorities will see to it that traffic lights are installed at dangerous intersections.

The state highway department apparently goes on the theory that there is no reason for any safety precautions until its "investigations" show there have been a certain number or percentage of fatal injuries. Maybe the department needs a new director.

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**NOT ONLY** Furniture Upholstery, but we're experts on Car Upholstery too. **ROY'S UPHOLSTERY SHOP**, Boyce Hot Springs.

The attractive woman patient told her psychiatrist that she had dreamed she was walking down the street on a busy afternoon with nothing on but her hat. "And were you embarrassed?" the specialist asked. "I'll say I was," she blurted. "It was my last year's hat."

**ALLEN'S HOTEL**, Boyce. Dollie and Tom. Air conditioned, dining room. Cafe bar. Deluxe accommodations.

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And don't say the following is outlandish.

With San Francisco and Oakland about to let their baseball teams go elsewhere, why not the Hot Springs area put in a bid for one of them? Crowds? Well, the Seals have been playing before crowds as low as 462—and if the Valley of the Moon can't dig up that many fans for every game there'd be something the matter with us.

But you say they couldn't get along with such small crowds. True. But this whole countryside has an enormous population within easy reach—and there would be added revenue from hot dogs and soothing beverages. And the overhead would be down to rock bottom.

The local ball park, at one time regarded as one of the best in this whole section, would need a little remodeling and reconditioning, but it wouldn't cost too much.

Anyway, it's as good a bet as was the attempt to get the air force academy here. (Did you know that 10 years ago we almost landed the United Nations headquarters for Cotati?)

**The hand a woman driver puts out means that whatever happens, it's your fault. VALLEY WATCH REPAIR, Boyes Hot Springs. SONOMA FURNITURE MART, 568 Broadway. Save money. SAL will repair, refinish your old furniture, or take in trade.**

Guess we're lucky—and so are you if you live in this Valley, or this part of California. Back in Michigan, we thought all Californians, all over the state, wore bathing suits or shorts the whole 365 days of every year. We weren't alone in thinking that. Most of the midwesterners do.

Our luck is that we came to this part of California, and particularly to the Valley of the Moon. Santa Rosa is hotter. Petaluma has more chilling winds. They shovel snow within 100 miles of here. Almost went to Woodland, and to Bakersfield. Now we know it gets terribly cold in both places in the winter, and unbearably hot every summer. And in some parts of the state the insects are a terrible affliction.

It's true, too, that the people in our Valley are the most friendly and helpful of any we've ever struck—anywhere. And it's true that seldom does one find such picturesque and old-world-like communities. Yep, we're all of us living in the garden spot of the universe.

**MIKE & ROSE'S BOYES SPRINGS STORE is the home of Good Meats, with low priced specials last three days of every week.**

**B & L LAUNDROMAT, Fetters Springs, makes your vacation more enjoyable by handling all your laundry problems. Try us out.**

Finest thing that ever happened was the decision of the Boyes Springs recreation district to build a permanent dam at its park now being developed along Sonoma river. It's understandable why there haven't been dams on this flowing stream all the way up from the bay, say every mile or so, thereby conserving for agricultural use the water which now is wasted, especially during the rainy seasons.

Oscar Larson, heading the recreation district, estimates the cost—if all material and labor were paid for at going rates, the dam would cost about \$7500. But with many individuals and organizations donating toward the project, the cost is expected to be below \$3000. At



**ON OUR MEZZANINE—Men's work and vacation clothes. Dress shirts. Women's dresses. BOYES VARIETY STORE.**

## **PEACE ELUSIVE, EVEN FOR HERMIT**

**By Mary Margaret McBride**

A hermit's life is the life for me.

Just think, no telephones to shrill at you just when you're well soaped in the bathtub. No difficult letters to answer. No alarm clock to jangle you awake. No wearing appointments to keep on the dot.

**ANDERSON'S REFRIGERATION — General Electric Dealers  
502 Highway 12, Boyes Hot Springs Sonoma 4219.**

Just long, lovely days of doing what you please with nobody to question or nag. True, as Helen Worden Erskine conscientiously points out in her entertaining book about recluses, "Out of This World," a hermit's life is not necessarily a happy one. But I figure that's because the men and women Helen tells about were all badly hurt by life before they shut themselves away. Withdrawal could not bring them contentment for they took their hurts right along with them.

**VALLEY DRUG STORE, Boyes. Painstaking prescription compounding, plus every other service of a good pharmacy.**

### **Yearns for Peace**

I, on the contrary, plan to turn to hermitting, not because I've been persecuted, ignored or frustrated, but just to get a little peace. My main problem is where to go for there are few places in the world today where the telephone can't reach you. Last summer as I signed in at the reception desk of a tiny hotel in northernmost Norway, right on the way to the North pole, the clerk glanced at my name and said, "Oh, yes, New York is on the telephone for you."

**SOL D. BECKER SELLS REAL ESTATE—  
Every Once in Awhile**

The same thing happens in midocean, in airplanes and even in automobiles. Certainly you would have to be pretty determined to be a recluse in New York city, as the Collyer brothers were in their bleak brownstone hideaway on Fifth avenue, with a dismantled Model T Ford in the basement, a canoe on the roof and 17 pianos.

**OLD-TIME DANCING, every Saturday night, Sunday afternoons.**

**LITTLE SWITZERLAND, El Verano.**

### **May Practice First**

Maybe I'll practice going into seclusion by setting aside one day or week for silence and withdrawal. Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, then president of the United Nations general assembly, once reminded me that the great Mahatma Gandhi used to do that.

**LEW'S GOOD FOODS & FOUNTAIN, Hiway 12, Boyes Springs.  
Merchants' Lunch daily. Snacks. Hamburgers.**

"He started it on his doctor's orders," Mme. Pandit explained, "but when he saw that it was the one thing which gave him strength to go on, he continued it the rest of his life."

That many feel the need for an occasional period of withdrawal from pressure and turmoil is proved by the increasing number of retreats where those of different faiths may go for quiet meditation and prayers.

Perhaps, too, the reason more and more persons are taking up solitary hobbies—from gardening and bird watching to cabinetmaking and stamp collecting—is that the hobby is a soundproof wall which permits the hobbyist to have a little time to himself.

So, Helen Worden Erskine, if you ever come to see me and find the doorbell ripped out, a la Collyer, and the shutters drawn, you can add another hermit to your collection.

### **VALLEY OF THE MOON CIGARS**

**Ask for Them — Only Handmade Cigars in the Valley**

**It's the Valley's Top Spot for good food, entertainment and finest of mixed drinks. PAUL'S OLD RANCHERO, Verano.**

Bet you didn't know they shovel snow in Hell! It's a fact. Hell is a little resort spot in Michigan, with lakes and water and fish and cabins all around—a delightful spot. Once it was known as Whiskeyville, but their hell-raisin' is now long past gone.

**A Luxury Hotel, but moderately priced. Pool, cabanas, cocktail bar, finest food. MISSION INN, Boyes Hot Springs.**

**FINE FOODS, Excellent Drinks, Superb Environment. Bring your guests here. MENDEL'S CAFE, on the Plaza, Boyes.**

Sign at entrance to a crossroads town: "Gas killed 3029 people in this state last year—2 inhaled it; 27 put a match to it; 3000 stepped on it."

**It's a must—bring your out-of-town visitors to BOYES SPRINGS BATH HOUSE first, and really show 'em something!**

**INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS. Richfield Products. On the Highway, Boyes Hot Springs. BUCHANAN & POLIDORI.**

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Published every Friday by the Little Publishing Co., Box 446, Boyes Hot Springs, Calif. E. A. Little, the Old Colonel, is editor. No subscription price, yet. Advertising? Ask us and we'll tell all. Pr. 4500.